

A New *Aceraius* Species (Coleoptera, Passalidae)  
from Sabah, Borneo<sup>1)</sup>

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**Abstract** A new species, *Aceraius hikidai*, is described from Sabah, Borneo. It seemingly resembles *A. pilifer* in having the small-sized body, but can readily be distinguished from the latter by having the anterior lower tooth of left mandible simple at the apex and the metasternum punctured and hairy in the anterior portion close to the mesocoxae.

*Aceraius pilifer* was originally described as *Passalus pilifer* from Java by PERCHERON (1835), and briefly redescribed by GRAVELY (1914) based on the specimens from Sumatra, Java and Borneo.

Recently, KON and JOHKI (1992) also recorded *A. pilifer* from Borneo (this identification was made with GRAVELY's (1918) key). After the publication of this paper, we had an opportunity to examine by courtesy of Dr. S. BOUCHER of the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris, a specimen of *A. pilifer* from Java, which had been identified by BOUCHER based on comparison with the type specimen of *A. pilifer* preserved in the collection of the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris. We found that the beetle previously recorded as *A. pilifer* by KON and JOHKI (1992) was specifically distinct in several external characters from the specimen of *A. pilifer* from Java. In addition, we found two specimens of this Bornean form concerned among the speci-

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mens in the collection of the Department of Biology, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia Kampus Sabah.

Thus, we are going to describe a new *Aceraius* species based on these specimens. In the following description, we adopt the terminology of GRAVELY (1914) for external morphology and that of LINDROTH (1957) for male genitalia. The abbreviations of morphometric characters are: length of left outer tubercle, from the apex of left inner tubercle to the outer apex of left outer tubercle (LOTL); length of right outer tubercle (ROTL); width of left outer tubercle at the narrowest place (LOTW); distance between the apices of inner tubercles (DIT); distance between the apical angles of supra-orbital ridges (DAS); body thickness at the center of metathorax (BT); width of elytra at the level of the shoulders (EW).

Before going further, we wish to express our hearty thanks to Dr. S. BOUCHER, the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris, for loaning a specimen of *A. pilifer* and Dr. T. HIKIDA of Kyoto University, for critically reading an early version of manuscript. Our cordial thanks are also due to Prof. Emer. T. HIDAKA, Kyoto University, for giving us the opportunity of performing the researches on the Bornean Passalidae.

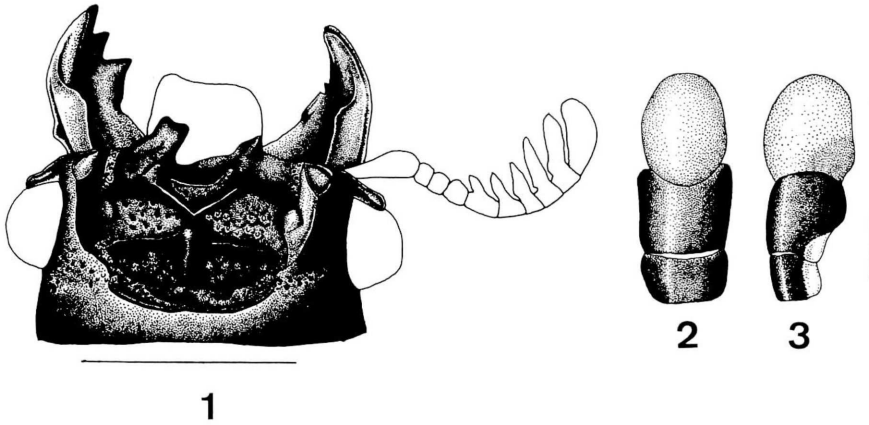
*Aceraius hikidai* sp. nov.

(Figs. 1–3)

*Aceraius pilifer*: KON & JOHKI, 1992, Elytra, Tokyo, **20**: 211. — KON, ARAYA & JOHKI, 1993, Elytra, Tokyo, **21**: 116. [Nec PERCHERON]

*Description of holotype. Male.* Length from anterior margin of head to apices of elytra 30.4 mm. Body black, polished; BT/EW 0.74.

Anterior angle of head rounded. Ridge on canthus rounded. Left outer tubercle larger than the right one, obliquely truncated and weakly bifid at distal end; outer margin of left outer tubercle concave in distal portion, with weak swelling near base; inner margin of left outer tubercle almost straight; right outer tubercle moderately large, obliquely truncated at distal end, not pointed downward in anterior view; outer angle of right outer tubercle acute, much more prominent forward than the inner one; upper surface of both outer tubercles rough; LOTW/LOTL 0.50; ROTL/LOTL 0.83. Inner tubercle large, pointed forward and upward; DIT/DAS 0.29. Ridge between inner tubercles distinct, slightly concave; frontal ridge almost straight, accompanying distinct groove anteriorly; parietal ridge not swollen upward in distal portion; supra-orbital ridge not curved inward in anterior portion. Area between both outer tubercles with some hairs; areas between frontal and parietal ridges, behind parietal ridge and behind eye with setiferous hair-bearing punctures; frontal area impunctate, hairless, rough. Upper margin of both mandibles without swelling behind upper tooth; upper tooth of left mandible truncated and weakly bifid at apex, not pointed forward in profile, higher than the right one; anterior margin of left upper tooth vertical; right upper tooth truncated at apex, pointed forward in profile; anterior margin of right upper tooth concave; anterior lower tooth of left mandible simple at apex; lowest



Figs. 1-3. *Aceraius hikidai* sp. nov., male, holotype; 1, head (scale: 5 mm), setae are omitted from this figure; 2-3, male genitalia (scale: 2 mm), ventral view (2), right lateral view (3).

terminal tooth of right mandible represented by a small denticle; upper portion of anterior lower tooth of right mandible represented by a low trapezoid, anterior angle obtusely angular, posterior angle rounded, upper side straight; lower portion of anterior lower tooth of right mandible represented by a small denticle, located more posteriorly than anterior angle of upper portion. Labrum with setiferous hair-bearing punctures, anterior margin almost straight in central portion, angles rounded, left angle more prominent forward than the right one; left lateral margin of labrum straight; right lateral margin slightly convex. Mentum with setiferous hair-bearing punctures in lateral portion, with a few punctures in central portion, weakly convex forward at middle of anterior margin. Antenna with six short lamellae.

Pronotum polished, with weak median groove, with a few setiferous hair-bearing punctures in lateral scar and in the vicinity of anterior corner, hairy in marginal groove; intercoxal process of prosternum with long hairs in whole of posterior portion. Mesosternum mat, impunctate, hairless, with shallow but distinct scar, rough in scar; mesothoracic episternum frosted and sparsely hairy in posterior portion, polished and with large punctures in both anterior and dorsal portions. Ridge separating intermediate and lateral areas of metasternum blunt, punctured, hairy throughout; lateral and anterior intermediate areas densely punctured and hairy throughout; posterior intermediate area a little more sparsely punctured and hairy, with shallow irregular dents along posterior margin of central area; central area punctured and hairy in anterior portion close to mesocoxae. Tenth rib of elytra punctured and hairy in anterior portion close to shoulder, impunctate and hairless in posterior portion; ninth punctured and hairy along whole length; eighth impunctate and hairless along whole length; seventh sparsely punctured and hairy along whole length; fifth and first punctured and hairy in posterior portions close to apices of elytra. Grooves of elytra hairless. Second to fourth tarsomeres moderately broadened distally in all legs; upper and

Table 1. Measurements (mm) of holotype and paratypes of *Aceraius hikidai* KON, UEDA et JOHKI, sp. nov. BL, body length.  
See text for other abbreviations.

	Holotype (male from Kinabalu)	Paratype (female from Kinabalu)	Paratype (female from Kundasang)
BL	30.4	29.3	30.4
BT	7.3	7.1	7.2
EW	9.8	9.5	9.9
LOTW	0.6	0.6	0.7
LOTL	1.2	1.2	1.2
ROTL	1.0	0.9	1.0
DIT	1.5	1.5	1.7
DAS	5.2	5.2	5.4

lateral margins of distal end of fifth tarsomere rounded in all legs.

Second sternite punctured and hairy in whole of posterior portion; third and fourth with hairs in lateral portion; fifth and sixth hairless except for lateral margin. Basal piece of male genitalia transverse, membranous on dorsal side; parameres consolidated on ventral side; penis rounded at distal end, with orifice at base of dorsal side.

*Variation.* No evident sexual dimorphism. In the paratype from Kundasang, inner margin of left outer tubercle convex; area between both outer tubercles hairless. See Table 1 for variation in measurements.

*Type series.* Holotype: 1 male, Mt. Kinabalu (1,740 m in alt.), Sabah, Borneo, 3-X-1987, A. UEDA & G. GUNSALAM leg. Paratypes: 1 female, same data as for the holotype, 1 female, Kundasang, Sabah, Borneo, 12-VIII-1987, T. HIKIDA leg. The holotype is deposited in the collection of the Department of Zoology, National Science Museum (Nat. Hist.), Tokyo, one paratype (1 female from Mt. Kinabalu) in the collection of the Department of Biology, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia Kampus Sabah, Malaysia, one paratype (1 female from Kundasang) in the collection of the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris.

*Etymology.* The name is dedicated to Dr. T. HIKIDA of Kyoto University, who has been giving us invaluable advice and encouragement. He is also the collector of one of the paratype specimens.

*Notes.* This species is distinct from *A. pilifer* (PERCHERON) by having the following characters: anterior lower tooth of left mandible simple at apex; upper portion of anterior lower tooth of right mandible represented by a low trapezoid; mesosternum mat, with distinct scar; central area of metasternum punctured and hairy in anterior portion close to mesocoxae; third and fourth sternites hairy in lateral portions.

## 要 約

近 雅博・上田明良・常喜 豊: ボルネオ, サバから採集されたオオクロツヤムシ属の 1 新

種。——ボルネオ、サバ州からオオクロツヤムシ属の1新種を記載し、*Aceraius hikidai* sp. nov. と命名した。この種は、体が小さい(約 30 mm) 点において *A. pilifer* (PECHERON) に似ているが、左の大顎の anterior lower tooth の先端がシンプルにとがっていることと、後胸腹板の中脚基節に近い部分に毛と点刻をもつ点において容易に区別できる。

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## On the Colonies of the Bornean Passalid Beetle, *Ophrygonius uedai* (Coleoptera, Passalidae)

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Most passalid species live in colonies in dead wood (KON & JOHKI, 1992, etc.). However, the two passalid species of the subfamily Aulacocyclusinae, *Taeniocerus bicanthatus* (PERCHERON) and *T. platypus* KAUP, are known to live in colonies on the ground under fallen trees, not digging galleries into logs (KON & JOHKI, 1987; KON & ARAYA, 1992).

Recently, we had an opportunity to observe some passalid beetles in the Kinabalu